

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the above amendment. In anticipation of a restriction requirement, claims 16-35 and 38-45 have been cancelled.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue the original subject matter via a continuation application.

It is respectfully submitted that each of the presently pending claims (claims 1-15, 36 and 37) is in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative at the below-listed telephone number if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

(612)/332-5300

David G. Schmaltz

Reg. No. 39,828

DGS:KAF

Date: 4/8/02

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE